



## NEWS RELEASE

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## Woman Pleads No Contest to Fatal Crash Into Apartment Building

A woman has pleaded no contest to crashing into a South Los Angeles apartment building, killing a woman sleeping next to her toddler, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today.

Connie Jo Howard (dob 5/09/60) entered her plea yesterday to one count each of gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated, driving under the influence of an alcoholic beverage causing injury and driving with a .08% blood alcohol content causing injury.

The felony complaint included allegations of inflicting great bodily injury and she was convicted of robberies in 1985 and 1987, and assault with a deadly weapon in 2007.

Howard is set to be sentenced to eight years in state prison on January 13 in Department F of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Compton Branch.

Nicole Marks, 44, was killed as she slept next to her daughter when the defendant's vehicle crashed into her bedroom in the building near Main Street and 87th Place on July 3, 2019, the prosecutor said. The daughter was not seriously injured but the passenger in Howard's vehicle suffered serious injuries.

Case TA149515 was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department, South Traffic Division.

### About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.